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Protest in the NFL: The silent battle

An Annotated Bibliography

Creswell, Julie, et al. "Before Running with Kaepernick, Nike Considered Cutting Him Loose." *New York Times*, 27 Sept. 2018, p. B9(L). *General Reference Center GOLD*, http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A555820499/GRGM?u=lincclin\_pcc&sid=GRGM&xid=308b2e8f. Accessed 10 Oct. 2018.

The article introduces Colin Kaepernick as the spokesperson for Nike. They were going back and forth about whether to keep Kaepernick or cut him from Nike due to him opting out of his contract with the NFL. They did not know what to do with him at first because they couldn’t put his name on jerseys anymore. Nike decided to keep him on board as it has raised his celebrity status to an all new high. Nike started seeing their stock raise as some people were saying that it was “Bold” of Nike to stick with Kaepernick, even though he did not play football anymore because no one would sign him. Kaepernick wanted to be the voice for the Americans that could not have spoken for themselves. Creswell has an objective option that informs readers about what happened to Kaepernick after the kneeling protest.

Harris, Jaime C. “NFL Player Protests Should Not Distract from Social Justice Issues.” *New York Amsterdam News*, 31 May 2018.

The policy that surrounds the article is that the players have to stand if they are out on the field or they could stay in the locker room if they wish. Harris states in the article that the policy is just taking the attention away from the actual issue. He is bias toward the policy because “white middle-aged males” passed it. In the article it brings up a bible verse (Romans 14:11) that kneeling is a sign of praise. This backing up the kneeling as not disrespectful as some may say. The news article is helpful to me because it gives us a little more information on how some people are for the protest.

Lomax, Michael, editor. *Sports and the Racial Divide: African American and Latino Experience in an Era of Change*. UnivPr Of Mississippi, 2010.

In history there have been many more protests and even more greater influences such as Muhammad Ali and Jacky Robinson that have impacted the course of history for the black community. In this book the author brings to light the past protests due to racial boundaries set in pro sports. This provides additional information in showing the different opinions and views on how people react and interpret different protests, such as not standing during the national anthem. However, the author is biased in the sense that it enlightens the previous protests and shows that they are needed to make change without providing enough context on the other side of the protests.

Steele, Shelby. "'The Oppression of Black People Is Over': The recent NFL protests were more dutiful than daring. Freedom has made the theme of victimization obsolete." *Hoover Digest*, no. 2, 2018, p. 177+. *Academic OneFile*, http://link.galegroup.com/apps/doc/A537492361/AONE?u=lincclin\_pcc&sid=AONE&xid=05dcac0f. Accessed 10 Oct. 2018.

The article begins with stating that the only way that Black Americans are moving forward in life is due to all the protest. It continues with explaining there have been multiple silent protest in the past that all have had greater risk that came with higher achievements than the NFL players. Race is always going to be around but has died out with new generations coming into light. Black Americans have always fought through oppression and now that they are “free” they do not know how to stop fighting. When people don’t know how to go forward they tend to go back to what is comfortable. This article provides a bias view on how Kaepernick’s actions were unnecessary, which gives a different perspective on the matter but also supports the argument that Kaepernick’s actions were taken as a personal attack rather than as a means to stand up for police brutality.

Stites, Adam. “Here's What the NFL's Halted Anthem Policy Means for Everyone.” *SBNation.com*, SBNation.com, 9 Sept. 2018, 12:20pm, www.sbnation.com/2018/7/23/17596078/nfl-national-anthem-policy-ramifications.

In this particular article they discuss the aftermath of Kaepernick’s actions, which helps have insight on the actions that the NFL chose to take. The article discusses how the NFL has enacted a policy stating that the players can stay in the locker rooms during the anthem but if they come out on the field they cannot kneel. If they do, the player and the team would risk paying large fines. The NFL has put the policy on hold to make sure that they are not taking away their First Amendment right. As of now, there is no punishment for this particular type of protest and it is left up to the team owners for punishment. The article provides an objective view on the subject matter but also expresses concern that if the NFL would have not taken any action the movement would not have been as big an issue it is today.

Witz, Billy. "Kaepernick Furthers Protest by Kneeling During Anthem." *New York Times*, 2 Sept. 2016, p. B11(L). *Opposing Viewpoints in Context*, <http://link.galegroup.com.db22.linccweb.org/apps/doc/A462216941/OVIC?u=lincclin_pcc&sid=OVIC&xid=bd66bf0c>

This article explains what a day in the life of Kaepernick entail’s while he was still playing football, after the protest. Thinking that he was disrespecting the flag and should not have been exercising his right while he was “working”. This particular article deals with the issue of how Kaepernick’s protest was taken out of context by the media, what was supposed to be a silent way to stand up against police brutality was taken as a personal attack on American soldiers and America itself. There have been many that have been inspired by Kaepernick’s actions, however there are also many that have taken this as a personal attack on them and their country causing a talented football player to lose his job. The author does not favor either side but shows the different points of views of the people. He is trying to bring to light the problem with police brutality.